

MINUTES

RHODE ISLAND HIGHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

July 19, 2013

The 323rd meeting of the Rhode Island Higher Education Assistance Authority was held Friday, July 19, 2013 in the McKenna Conference Room at 560 Jefferson Blvd., Warwick, RI. Chairperson Pro Tempore LaSalle called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Ms. Faith LaSalle, Esq.

Dr. William Croasdale

Mr. John Howell

Mr. Christopher Feisthamel, designee for General Treasurer Gina Raimondo

Mr. Dennis Duffy, Esq.

Mr. Daniel Egan

Mr. Robert Delaney

Board Members Absent:

Ms. Patricia Doyle

Also In Attendance:

Mr. Charles P. Kelley, Interim Coordinating Officer

Ms. Gail Mance-Rios, Deputy Director

Mr. Charles Miller, Chief Information Officer
Mr. Marc Lacroix, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Joseph Palumbo, Legal Counsel
Ms. Dana Peterson-Fatuda, Administrative Assistant
Ms. Linda Makhlouf, RIHEAA
Mr. Thomas Pearce, RIHEAA
Ms. Lisa Shevlin, RIHEAA
Mr. Michael Joyce, RIHEAA
Ms. Winnie Antos, Union Steward, RIHEAA
Mr. Christopher Lambert, Council 94
Mr. Steven Strychaz, Council 94
Ms. Laurie Brayton, Legislative Analyst
Mr. Michael Ferry, RIDE
Mr. Greg Stack, State Budget Analyst

1. Minutes of the Board of Directors' meeting held on June 21, 2013 were unanimously approved. The minutes were corrected to reflect the fact that Mr. Howell nominated Dr. Croasdale to the NEHBE Board.

2. Chairman's Report: Ms. LaSalle expressed her concerns about the state budget and the freeze of FTEs to 23 positions. A discussion ensued about how this impacts the staffing for WaytoGo. There was a discussion of the status of discussions with RIDE regarding WaytoGo.

3. Interim Coordinator's Report. Mr. Kelley brought to the Board's attention the Quasi Public Accountability legislation introduced this year but not enacted. He indicated that even though the legislation was not enacted, he intends to seek prices from qualified accounting firms to assist with all financial reporting requirements at a cost below the amount necessitating utilization of a bid process.

4. Election of Officers. Upon motion duly made and seconded it was VOTED to elect the following officers:

Faith LaSalle-Chairperson

William Croasdale-Vice Chairperson

John Howell-Secretary

William Croasdale-Treasurer

5. Finance Committee. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously VOTED to elect the following members to the Finance Committee:

William Croasdale, Chairman

Dennis Duffy

Dan Egan

John Howell

Chris Feisthamel

The Chair serves ex-officio on all committees.

6. Appointment of Interim Executive Director. A discussion took place concerning how Mr. Kelley came to be Interim Coordinating Officer. Upon motion duly made and seconded it was unanimously VOTED to form a personnel committee and to appoint Mr. Delaney as Chair, and Messrs. Duffy, Mr. Egan, Mr. Feisthamel, and Dr. Croasdale as members, with the Chair serving ex-officio.

7. Collegeboundfund update: Mr. Kelley and Ms. Mance-Rios made a report.

8. State Grant Program Update: Mr. Joyce provided a report.

9. Financial Report: Mr. Lacroix provided a report.

On motion made by Dr. Croasdale and seconded by Mr. Egan it was VOTED to adjourn.

Adjournment at 10:15 AM.

Mr. John Howell
Secretary